

TABLE:

Premier League Division 1

1st Grade:

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
Capital City Suns	17	12	2	3	2	52	22	40
Belconnen United	17	11	2	4	2	44	17	37
Weston Creek	17	8	6	3	6	39	23	36
Monaro	17	9	4	4	4	47	24	35
Canberra Deakin	17	10	3	4	2	40	19	35
Canberra Olympic	17	10	2	5	1	37	22	33
Gungahlin Juventus	17	6	2	9	2	31	48	22
Uni of Canberra	17	3	1	13	1	26	47	11
Burns Club	17	3	0	14	0	14	66	9
Queanbeyan City	17	2	0	15	0	23	75	6

Under 23's

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
Belconnen United	17	11	4	2	4	74	23	41
Uni of Canberra	17	11	3	3	3	66	20	39
Weston Creek	17	10	4	3	4	45	23	38
Monaro	17	7	5	4	5	47	29	31
Canberra Olympic	17	7	5	5	3	38	21	29
Capital City Suns	17	8	1	8	1	57	42	26
Canberra Deakin	17	7	3	7	1	58	27	25
Gungahlin Juventus	17	5	2	10	1	48	43	18
Burns Club	17	4	3	10	2	28	41	17
Queanbeyan City	17	0	0	17	0	4	196	0

Cosmos Youth

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
Belconnen United	17	16	1	0	1	80	13	50
Uni of Canberra	17	13	2	2	2	50	16	43
Gungahlin Juventus	17	14	0	3	0	72	24	42
Canberra Deakin	17	10	1	6	1	51	30	32
Weston Creek	17	9	2	6	2	57	40	31
Capital City Suns	17	5	3	9	3	29	44	21
Monaro	17	5	1	10	1	38	57	17
Burns Club	17	3	1	13	1	22	59	11
Canberra Olympic	17	3	0	14	0	20	84	9
Queanbeyan City	17	1	1	15	1	23	73	5

Note: Queanbeyan City forfeited to Weston Creek Royals - Youth 27.6.99, Monaro forfeited to Belconnen United - Youth 22.8.99

Canberra Soccer News

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TABLE:

Premier League Division 2

1st Grade:

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
O'Connor Knights	20	16	4	0	2	49	12	54
Tuggeranong United	20	12	3	5	3	55	22	42
Cooma	20	10	3	7	1	34	30	34
ANU	20	8	5	7	4	43	31	33
Belwest Foxes	20	8	2	10	2	41	44	28
White Eagles	20	6	4	10	3	35	40	25
Sabres FC	20	3	7	9	5	28	48	24
ADFA	20	1	2	17	2	16	74	7

Reserve Grade:

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
O'Connor Knights	20	15	2	3	2	41	15	49
Tuggeranong United	20	13	2	5	1	63	40	42
ANU	20	13	1	6	1	49	21	41
Belwest Foxes	20	12	0	8	0	59	24	36
White Eagles	20	10	2	8	2	51	32	34
ADFA	19	6	2	11	1	28	44	21
Sabres FC	19	4	1	14	1	19	51	14
Cooma	20	0	2	18	2	11	93	4

Rockets Youth League

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	Pt
Tuggeranong United	17	15	2	1	2	87	21	49
Belconnen United	17	11	2	3	2	63	31	37
Belwest Foxes	17	8	3	6	3	49	38	30
Southern Spirit	17	5	1	11	1	36	68	20
Radford	17	5	2	10	2	26	43	16
Belsouth	17	2	0	15	0	22	82	6

Note: ADFA forfeited both games against O'Connor Knights 3.7.99

Golden Boot Chase

Premier League 1:

19: T. Lemezina (CCS), S. Lazzari (WCK)

and many others!

I think we can now eliminate all other contenders.

Premier League 2:

22: S. Channing (ANU)

18: J. Warren-Smith (Tug)

16: S. Rezo (O'Con)

15: G. Brown (Belw)

CANBERRA SOCCER NEWS

Issue 18 - 28th/29th August 1999

SOCCER CANBERRA

EDITORIAL:

Welcome to the last issue before the Finals. From next week onwards we'll have two special issues to celebrate the semi-finals and the preliminary finals.

As to date the venues have been set as thus: Major semi-finals to be held at Riverside Stadium. Minor semi-final at Majura Oval. The Preliminary final is set down for Hawker Oval and we are all hoping that Greenway Oval is ready by September 19th in time for the Grand Finals.

Out of the six Divisions with tables on the back page of this newsletter, only one has been settled and that is Premier League Division 2 1st Grade.

But the main focus of everyone's attention this week will be Division 1 1st Grade. Here the title is between Suns and Belconnen with the former only needing a draw to attain the crown.

Meanwhile Belconnen, whilst in the fight for the title, could even miss out if they lose and results go against them. And Olympic in sixth place can still mathematically qualify. That's how complex it is.

The only team 100% guaranteed to be playing next week in 1st Grade is the Suns. Weston Creek have the best draw of the Top 6, playing the slumping Burns while Olympic make their way out to Queanbeyan to play City.

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It was sad to hear that both Matt Valeri and Simon Agnello were unsuccessful in their attempts of obtaining a contract with Italian team Trapani.

They will be back in Canberra early next month and hopefully an EC team will pick them up.

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It was also sad to hear that one Jimmy Hayes has finally decided to hang up the boots after some 43 years being involved with the game. Thanks again Jimmy.

STATE LEAGUE SEMI-FINALS

Saturday 28th August

Division 1:

Champions: Belconnen United

Major Semi-Final

Belconnen United v Monaro

Minor Semi-Final

Burns Club v ANU

Division 2:

Champions: Belconnen United

Major Semi-Final

Belconnen United v Gungahlin Juventus

Minor Semi-Final

ANU v University of Canberra

Division 3:

Champions: Harmonie

Major Semi-Final

Harmonie v Weston Creek Royals

Minor Semi-Final

Valley Blues v Belconnen United

Division 4:

Champions: Trojans

Major Semi-Final

Trojans v Harmonie

Minor Semi-Final

ANU-2 v University of Canberra-1

Canberra Soccer News wishes all participants in the Soccer Canberra State League finals all the best.

Congratulations to all the Champions and to Belconnen United for taking out the top two grades and placing in Division 3. Also to ANU for having three teams in the Finals.



Monaro 1 (0)



Belconnen United 2 (1)

By Dylan Durie

Monaro coach Andrew Monterosso indicated his club would take steps to determine why Marko Perinovic was allowed to take the field after Belconnen United forced their way into the top two of the ACT Premier League with a 2-1 win over his side at Riverside Stadium yesterday.

Monterosso was livid that Perinovic was able to play after serving just one week of a four game suspension. "It's just a joke", he said "Belconnen are running the show for Soccer Canberra and we will take this as far as we can."

Soccer Canberra chief Rob Bennett said last night Belconnen had successfully appealed Perinovic's suspension on the grounds that there were insufficient voting committee members present to ratify the decision.

In the on-field action, an early goal from Peter Farrelly and a second half strike from Perinovic gave Belconnen a two-goal lead, before a late penalty to Monaro gave United some nervous moments in the final 20 minutes.

The game began in sensational fashion when Farrelly headed home a speculative long cross from Jaime Mauro inside 3 minutes. Mauro lobbed the ball in from the right and Farrelly found himself unmarked and glanced his header inside the far post.

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Belconnen went on to completely dominate the first half but failed to score again before the break, while Monaro failed to produce a single chance on goal.

In the tenth minute Farrelly turned provider after a good run down the left wing and accurate cross to Perinovic who headed just wide.

Shortly after Perinovic had another headed chance form a Mauro free kick but was again narrowly off target. Just a minute later Mauro produced a wonderful effort when he latched on to a loose ball 40m from goal and spotted Monaro goalkeeper Tony Guarino off his line, but his delicate chip bounced out from the underside of the bar with the 'keeper stranded.

Five minutes from half time Farrelly missed Belconnen's best chance to increase their lead when a Lee Pietrukowski cross found him unmarked 10m out, but a good save from Guarino thwarted his first effort and he pushed the rebound wide when he should have scored.

After the interval Monaro were far more committed and Belconnen seemed to have tired but they regained the initiative after an early burst from the home side, and could have scored when Jason Dunn headed against the cross bar from a cross by Scott Manson.

With 25 minutes left Perinovic put Belconnen 2-0 up with an unstoppable header from a perfect Luke Larfield cross. This spurred Monaro on and minutes later they pulled a goal back with Danny Macor winning a penalty after falling a little too easily under a soft challenge, Laz Simeonov putting away the spot kick.

With Farrelly and Adrian Dowling being replaced due to injuries, Belconnen retreated into their half to defend their lead, but although Monaro controlled possession for the final period, they were unable to make any clear chances even during an astonishing nine minutes of injury time.

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Belconnen Coach Lino Fiorese was ecstatic with the win. "It was a good game but we played very well and thoroughly deserved the win, I can't fault the boys performance." Belconnen will now have the luxury of a double chance in the finals should they beat Canberra Deakin next week.



Canberra Olympic 5 (2)



Gungahlin Juventus 4 (0)

By Nick Guoth

In a match of the stripes, the blue of Olympic were just good enough to overcome continuous fightbacks from the black and whites of Juventus.

The final score was 5-4 and no spectator can say they didn't get their money's worth in this thrill a moment game. "It was a circus out there", said Olympic coach Baz Giampaolo.

On four occasions Olympic attained a two-goal lead only to see their opponents grab one back, and in most cases immediately afterwards.

Olympic are struggling to make the Final Four and need not only to win next week against Queanbeyan City but also rely on other results as well.

The first half was nearly all Olympic as they played the structured football we have seen them exhibit throughout the season. Even missing a few key players to an indoor tournament, they were moving the ball around well.

It took nearly a quarter of an hour for the first real threat on goal. Tim Moustakas beat two defenders and carried on to the goal line before crossing the ball to Geoff Howarth who's header went just over.

Juventus midfielder John Glass was the main threat, but all of his shots were from too far out to cause Dimitrios Stamarcos any serious problems.

Yet Glass provided George Cattanach with a real good chance, and alike a number of these throughout the game, it was wasted as the ball slew well wide of the target.

They paid for this miss when a minute later Peter Mazis won the ball in midfield with a strong challenge and put in Njegosh Popovich who didn't waste his chance to put Olympic one up.

After Marcello Fernandez missed a good opportunity to double the score, Geoff Howarth stepped up to produce the best goal of the game. A free kick some 30m out was tapped to him by Pino Seminara and Howarth rifled the low shot in off the right upright leaving Juventus keeper Denis Langone sprawling.

Popovich volleyed over from a Robert Grande cross while at the other end Stamarcos saved at the feet of Cattanach after Oscar Zamora had put him through. Back to the Juventus goal and Langone nearly paid for some indecision when he only palmed at a Howarth corner kick. Fortunately for Juventus, Seminara sent his volley well across goal.

Then in the dying minutes of the first half Juventus should have scored. Some hard work in the midfield saw the ball fall to John Glass and he was suddenly one-on-one with Stamarcos, but Glass lost his footing and sent the ball well wide and into the bushes.

After a brief respite for the fans to get a coffee and stretch their legs, the action started again, and if anyone was slow getting back to their seats or left early they were going to be sorry.

Within less than a minute, the Daniel Raad played a one-two with Howarth but shot just wide.

Then seven minutes in Juventus struck. A long throw from the right was headed on by a defender and fell to Oscar Zamora. His first time volley from 20m out gave Stamarcos no chance.

Then a minute later Raad beat his marker and was facing the keeper, but unfortunately his shot bounced back off the far post for Jason Markezic to clear. But he was not to be denied two minutes later when he received a cut-back from Howarth and put it away to restore the two-goal lead.

A good chance for both sides in the following minutes was met with another goal the one after. In the fifty-eighth, a cross from substitute Carl Valeri found John Glass. Glass had time to turn before rifling a shot into the bottom right hand corner for 3-2 to Olympic.

Juventus continued to push forward for the equaliser with shots by Cattanaach and Tony Rinaudo going close. But in the 70th minute Njegosh Popovich won the ball in the midfield. He sent the ball to Seminara who drew the defender before laying off to Howarth and his shot slid past Langone at the near post.

But, like before, only one minute later and Juventus were again back in the game. A Craig Rankine free kick from the left touchline found John Glass rising well above everyone else to head home.

The action continued at both ends with chances being snuffed by good goalkeeping or shots going wide. On the 90 minute mark Baz Giamapolo, now on as a substitute, sent Popovich down the right. His cross found Howarth who played a one-two with Seminara before using the woodwork to beat Langone and wrap up his hatrick.

Into the 93rd minute, Olympic were made to worry after Juventus struck again. Cattanaach took the ball down the right and into the box. His low cross was met by Zamora who placed the ball delicately past Stamarcos. When the whistle blew, there were many happy spectators, and a number of relieved Olympic officials.

Giamapolo blamed his team's performance on the fact that they were very low key throughout the week. "We fell into the comfort zone in the second half." Giampaolo singled out Peter Mazis and the speedy Geoff Howarth for their good work on the day.

Frank Cachia, caretaker coach for Juventus, said his team were not really interested in the first half. But he was happy with the comebacks. "We didn't throw in the towel and at least we were competitive."



University of Canberra 2 (2)



Capital City Suns 3 (2)

By Nathan Long

The Capital City Suns can consider themselves lucky to have escaped with a 3-2 victory against a brave University of Canberra side at Mawson on Sunday.

Uni launched numerous attacks on goal, taking a 2-1 lead 24 minutes in. They were prevented from adding to it by a great second half performance by Suns goalkeeper Anthony Giannasca.

Striker Tony Lemezina spearheaded the Suns attack scoring two goals and setting up the other. For Uni, Dustin Wells and Simon Foxhill caused the Suns defence endless grief.

Uni scored first in the 14th minute. A Foxhill shot rebounded off Giannasca and Paul Panebianco cleaned up the scraps. Four minutes later the Suns replied through Lemezina. Rolly Fernandez weaved through the defence and passed to Pat Phommaseisy who touched it on for Lemezina to shoot past Uni keeper Chris Freeman.

In the 24th minute Scott Anderson took off down the left side and crossed to Foxhill in a one-on-one in front of goal. He looped a header past Giannasca for a 2-1 lead.

The Suns equalised five minutes before half time. Lemezina got the ball on the right side of the box and turned a pass inside to Luka Ujdur who chipped past the wrong-footed Freeman.

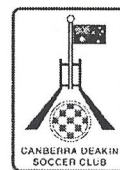
Uni continued to pressure the Suns in the second half, having three genuine chances. Anderson and Damiano Serenillini were very effective down the left flank, consistently turning defence into attack.

The Suns claimed the lead for the first, and only time in the 71st minute. Fernandez made a run down the left side and crossed to Lemezina who chested the ball past a despairing Freeman.

The last twenty minutes saw Uni go all out to get the tying goal. Wells had a header blocked and created more half chances, but they suffered a blow when Anderson went off with cramps.

Uni coach Rod Lynes thought his side deserved better. "Commitment and effort wise, I was very pleased. We just lacked experience in some key areas that they had and it showed."

Suns coach Bill Dojcinowski was pleased to come away with the win. "I think that was one of our worst efforts all year. Uni had a few good chances and if they had put them away we could have been in trouble."



Canberra Deakin 7 (3)



Burns Club 0 (0)

By Greg Welsh

An under-strength Canberra Deakin handed out a 7-0 thumping to Burns at Deakin Oval on Sunday, but still need to win against Belconnen United next weekend to ensure a semi-final berth.

The win, which was every bit as convincing as the scoreline suggests, leaves Deakin in equal fourth place with Monaro on 35 points, however the latter have a slightly superior goal-difference. Each have a difficult last-round opponent, with Monaro set to play the Capital City Suns and Deakin scheduled to meet the defending premiers. A loss by any of these teams could see them plummet out of contention.

Despite missing three regular first-team players in Gaby Exposito, Joe Skrtic and Ante Kelava, Deakin were still a class above the highlanders, who seem to mostly consist of players either at the beginning or end of their football careers.

Central midfielder Ben Deighan put the game firmly in Deakin's keeping with an excellent first-half performance. He nodded in Stan Dukic's long throw in the 11th minute, then set up Anthony Rakic's first goal a quarter of an hour later.

Within four minutes Deakin were 3-0 ahead as Deighan again took full toll of some loose marking at the near post to head home Dukic's inswinging corner.

Burns had kept Pedro Pavez on his toes with a couple of long range efforts from youngster Brett McRitchie and canny striker Alan Strachan in the first stanza, but the Deakin keeper could easily have left at half-time without it affecting the final scoreline.

Deakin increased their lead one minute after the interval when Anthony Barac was brought down a metre or two outside the Burns penalty area. Marcello Munoz steered the resulting free-kick into the top left corner of the net as if it was the easiest thing in the world to do.

Rakic unleashed a left-foot drive fifteen minutes later to notch up his second goal, before Barac and Vince Bodo rounded off the scoring.

Deakin coach Bernie Lustica was happy with the way his side kept at their task. "It was a good performance," he said. "I didn't expect to win so comfortably."

"It's all down to the Belconnen game. It's going to be much tougher, but we'll be there fighting."



Weston Creek Royals 4 (2) Queanbeyan City Lions 0 (0)

By Nick Guoth

Weston Creek Royals nearly cemented their position in the Finals when they pushed away any resistance by Queanbeyan City Lions in a 4-0 win.

The result leaves Weston in 3rd spot, one point ahead of equal 4th with the final round next week. Whilst they play lowly Burns Club, the two teams below them fight it out against the two above them.

In the first half a cross from the right by Hami Adhami found Peter Hader who half-volleyed the ball home at the near post. Then later in the half, Dion Cannell was brought down in the box for a penalty. Steve Lazarri stepped up and put away the spot kick.

Any chance for Queanbeyan to get back in the game was somewhat halted when one of their players was sent off for striking an opponent.

Lazarri was nearly not chosen to play as he was just getting over a bout of pneumonia. In the second half he was able to put away two more chances put up to him, but from the coach later, he could have scored many more. The goals move him back into a tie for the lead for the Golden Boot.

Weston coach Jimmy Bland was a bit disappointed with Queanbeyan. "The scoreline flattered them. It was an easy game and I'm happy with the 3 points."

"Still, we need to step up a bit in intensity in the last third. We should have scored more", added Bland.

Premier League Division 2 Report

The results from last weekend have now seen 1st Grade settled and Reserve Grade needing only one more entrant.



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Following the results in this issue is a small match report from the crucial game between Sabres FC and Belwest Foxes.

In the Reserve Grade, O'Connor Knights, Tuggeranong United and ANU are set with either Belwest or White Eagles to join them, the former being the most likely.

O'Connor Knights 7 (5) v ADFA 2 (0)
S. Rezo 3 J. Haling 2
S. Scerba 2
J. Glavinic
D. Matic

Cooma 1 (1) v Tuggeranong 0 (0)
D. Damico

White Eagles 1 (0) v ANU 5 (1)
G. Milovanovic M. Palfrey 2
R. Lynes
M. Wiseman
S. Channing

Sabres FC 3 (3) v Belwest Foxes 0 (0)
T. Donaldson
K. Finney
W. Schneider

Sabres FC 3 (3) v Belwest Foxes 0 (0)

Showing no signs of fatigue from Tuesday night's chilly defeat of ADFA, the Sabres faced Final Four aspirants Belwest at RMC.

Playing some of their finest football this season, a relaxed and confident Sabres put three goals past the visitors in the first 25 minutes and scarcely looked back. Sabres 3, Belwest 0.

In the curtain-raiser, the Reserve side went down 3-0.

Coach Tony Radford had selected a three man strike force, continuing to develop the attractive, attacking style of play that has characterised his reign at the club.

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CSN Predictions for Week 18

Saturday:

Capital City Suns v Monaro
2pm: Riverside Stadium (1st Rd Suns 1-0)
Suns got a bit of a fright last week whilst Monaro are still fuming over the Perinovic incident. Suns are trying to take out the Championship whilst Monaro are trying to make the Finals. What a game this will be. Two very potent strike forces.
PICK: SUNS

Belconnen United v Canberra Deakin
2pm: Hawker Oval (1st Rd Deakin 3-2)
A must win game for both teams. A loss would probably see the that team miss out on the Finals. Belconnen are probably in a better position than Deakin, but won't rest for a draw. Will Perinovic play? Deakin are now on a roll and have started to combine well.
PICK: DRAW (and I'm not sitting on the fence!)

Gungahlin Juventus v University of Canberra
2pm: Jamison Oval (1st Rd Juventus 2-0)
Although some may say this game doesn't mean anything to the Finals, it will mean a lot to the students. Juventus are on a roll, but unfortunately in the wrong direction. Their 5-4 loss last week was creditable, but there is only pride left.
PICK: UNIVERSITY

Burns Club v Weston Creek Royals
2pm: Woden Park (1st Rd Weston 5-1)
A danger game for Weston although all money is on them to win. A win guarantees them of at least 3rd and maybe 2nd depending on Belconnen. Hader and Lazarri will be too strong for Thompson, et al.
PICK: WESTON

Queanbeyan City Lions v Canberra Olympic
2pm: Riverside Stadium (1st Rd Olympic 6-2)
Apparantly there will be a good crowd for this game at Queanbeyan. They will have to cheer loudly as Olympic are too strong a team with all the talent available.
PICK: OLYMPIC

The strategy paid dividends as all three of his forwards found the target. Kel Finney was the first on the score sheet, slotting past the Belwest goalkeeper with deceptive ease after Will Schneider had set him free.

Todd Donaldson was next, latching onto a through ball from Guy Sadler, flicking the ball first over a defender and then the advancing goalkeeper.

Schneider finished off the scoring streak as he put away a penalty after Donaldson had been bundled over in the 18-yard box.

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The Draw for the Finals has been made:
Saturday September 4:
Major Semi-Final – Woden Park
Minor Semi-Final – Hawker Enclosed

Saturday September 11:
Preliminary Final – Majura Oval

Saturday September 18:
Grand Final – Nijong Oval, Cooma
10am Reserve Grade, 12:30pm 1st Grade



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